

**Board of County Commissioners  
Leon County, Florida**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON AGENDA ITEM # 32:**

**First and Only Public Hearing to Adopt a Proposed Ordinance to be Known  
as the "Leon County Indigent Healthcare Ordinance"**

**June 13, 2006  
Commission Meeting**

# Board of County Commissioners

## *Agenda Request*

Date of Meeting: June 13, 2006  
Date Submitted: June 12, 2006

To: Honorable Chairman and Board of County Commissioners

From: Parwez Alam, County Administrator  
Vincent Long, Assistant County Administrator

Subject: Additional Information of Public Hearing Item #32

Staff is providing the following so that the Board has the most complete and up to date information on this issue. Below is information on recent action taken by the Primary Healthcare Implementation Advisory Board (PHIAB) at their regular Board meeting of June 8, 2006, as well as recent survey results obtained by staff on this issue.

**Issue:** PHIAB Action of June 8, 2006

**Action:** At their regular meeting of June 8, 2006, the PHIAB voted to support Option #1 of the Board's June 13, 2006 Public Hearing agenda item on the Leon County Indigent Health Care Ordinance which is "to conduct the first and only public hearing and adopt the Leon County Indigent Health Care Ordinance, and authorize the expenditure of up to \$150,000 to fund a public information campaign."

It is also important to note that at that time, PHIAB member Sharon Roush, CEO of Capital Regional Medical Center expressed her desire to clarify the record regarding her support for the County's uninsured healthcare plan. Mrs. Roush expressed concern that her position on this issue may have been mischaracterized at the County Commission meeting of May 23, 2006. Mrs. Roush asked that the record reflect her support for this initiative, reiterated her interest in assisting the County in these efforts, and expressed her desire that the issue to be placed on the ballot for voter consideration.

**Issue:** Recent Public Opinion Survey Results: May 2006 Survey

**Action:** The City of Tallahassee commissioned a comprehensive resident public opinion survey which was conducted by Vancore Jones Communications, Inc. in May 2006 (Attachment #1). In this survey, 800 residents were asked a number of questions designed to gauge their opinion in a statistically significant manner on a variety of community issues. To measure public opinion regarding support for the imposition of a tax to provide healthcare to the uninsured, the following question was asked: "Would you support a tax increase, like a property tax, to help provide insurance coverage or medical care to those within this community that need it?"

It should be noted that this is not a "friendly question" designed to illicit a positive response. For example, this question leaves open-ended the issue of how much of a tax increase a person would support. This notwithstanding, 462 residents

**Q17. Would you support a tax increase, like a property tax or sales tax, to help provide insurance coverage or medical care to those within this community that need it?**

	Actual Responses	Frequency Percentage
<b>STRONGLY SUPPORT</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>SOMEWHAT SUPPORT</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>SOMEWHAT OPOSE</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>STRONGLY OPOSE</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>26%</b>
<b>UNSURE</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>5%</b>

	Actual Responses	Frequency Percentage
<b>SUPPORT</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>58%</b>
<b>OPOSE</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>38%</b>

